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CLASSIFICATION SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR.

SUBJECT Possible Closing of Interior Export Customs Offices

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PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

At the request of the Russians, discussions were held in East German customs offices in late January 1953 concerning the possibility of closing export customs offices in the interior of East Germany. This move is designed to eliminate the export customs inspection at the manufacturing plant. All export customs inspection is to be accomplished at border customs stations. 1/

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1/ [redacted] Comment. Since there is only a small number of such border stations and these are to remain understaffed, large backlogs of material to be processed will pile up. In order to avoid delays, pressure will be exerted to pass shipments without any proper inspection at all; thus East Germany will not know what is exported through these channels.

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